

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A corner guard adapted to protect a pre-hung door assembly comprising:
  - a frontal barrier member having an outer bumper surface and an inner base surface;
  - a fixed side flange affixed to one end of said frontal barrier member and extending approximately perpendicularly with respect to the inner base surface such that a right angle inner surface corner contour is formed therebetween; and
  - an outwardly extensible lip member affixed to the other end of said frontal barrier member.
2. The corner guard of claim 1, wherein said frontal barrier member, said fixed side flange, and said lip member are formed as an integrally molded plastic unit.
3. The corner guard of claim 1, wherein said lip member comprises:
  - a proximal end affixed to said other end of said frontal barrier member; and
  - a free distal end at which said lip member is extensible in a flexible, bow-like manner.
4. The corner guard of claim 3, wherein the proximal end of said lip member comprises a substantially flat strip member disposed approximately perpendicularly with respect to the inner base surface of said frontal barrier member such that a right angle brace is formed between the inner base surface and the proximal end of said lip member.

1 5. The corner guard of claim 1, wherein said lip member includes a corner flange at its  
2 free distal end.

1 6. The corner guard of claim 5, wherein said lip member corner flange curves inwardly  
2 in a hook-like manner.

1 7. The corner guard of claim 1, wherein said frontal barrier member includes a raised  
2 bumper member extending outwardly from the inner base surface to form the outer  
3 bumper surface.

1 8. The corner guard of claim 7, wherein said bumper member includes a substantially  
2 flat upper surface.

1 9. The corner guard of claim 7, wherein the width-to-height ratio of said bumper member  
2 is at least 1.0.

1 10. The corner guard of claim 7, wherein said bumper member has a width between  
2 1.25" and 1.50".

1 11. The corner guard of claim 7, wherein said bumper member has a height between  
2 0.875" and 1.25".

1 12. The corner guard of claim 7, wherein said frontal barrier member further includes a  
2 substantially flat transition flange that couples said raised bumper member to the  
3 proximal end of said lip member.

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1 13. A corner guard adapted to protect a pre-hung door assembly that includes a door  
2 secured within a door frame, said corner guard comprising:

3 a frontal barrier member affixed across a front corner region of the pre-hung door  
4 assembly, said frontal barrier member including an outer bumper surface and an inner  
5 base surface;

6 a fixed side flange affixed to one end of said frontal barrier member and  
7 extending approximately perpendicularly with respect to the inner base surface such that  
8 a right angle inner surface corner contour is formed therebetween; and

9 an outwardly extensible lip member affixed to the other end of said frontal barrier  
10 member.

1 14. The corner guard of claim 13, wherein said lip member secures said other end of said  
2 frontal barrier member to a corner of the door frame.

1 15. The corner guard of claim 13, wherein said door frame is a three-sided door frame  
2 comprising a head jamb and a pair of side jambs wherein the head jamb is coupled at  
3 right angle junctions with the side jambs.

1 16. The corner guard of claim 13, wherein said frontal barrier member, said fixed side  
2 flange, and said lip member formed as an integrally molded plastic unit.

1 17. The corner guard of claim 13, wherein said lip member has a proximal end affixed to  
2 said other end of said frontal barrier member and a free distal end at which said lip  
3 member is extensible in a flexible, bow-like manner.

1 18. The corner guard of claim 17, wherein the proximal end of said lip member  
2 comprises a substantially flat strip member extending approximately perpendicularly with

3 respect to the inner base surface of said frontal barrier member such that a right angle  
4 brace is formed between the inner base surface and the proximal end of said lip member.

1 19. The corner guard of claim 17, wherein said lip member includes a corner flange at its  
2 free distal end for attaching to a corner of the door frame.

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2 20. The corner guard of claim 19, wherein the door frame includes at least one vertical  
3 frame member having a bottom end extending in offset manner below the bottom edge of  
4 the door to form an L-shaped bottom corner region of the pre-hung door assembly, and  
5 wherein said lip member is extensible such that said lip member corner flange is  
6 securable to the bottom corner of the vertical frame member.

1 21. The corner guard of claim 19, wherein said lip member corner flange curves  
2 inwardly in a hook-like manner.

1 22. The corner guard of claim 13, wherein said frontal barrier member comprises a  
2 raised bumper member extending upwardly from the inner base surface to form the outer  
3 bumper surface.

1 23. The corner guard of claim 22, wherein said bumper member includes a substantially  
2 flat upper surface.

1 24. The corner guard of claim 22, wherein the width-to-height ratio of said bumper  
2 member is at least 1.0.

1 25. The corner guard of claim 22, wherein said bumper member has a width between  
2 1.25" and 1.50".

1 26. The corner guard of claim 22, wherein said bumper member has a height between  
2 0.875" and 1.25".

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5 27. The corner guard of claim 22, wherein said frontal barrier member further includes a  
flat transition flange that couples said raised bumper member to said lip member.

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1 28. A pre-hung door assembly comprising:  
2 a door secured within a door frame; and  
3 four corner guards attached respectively to the four corners of the door frame,  
4 wherein each of said four corner guards includes:  
5 a frontal barrier member for providing a barrier surface across the front of  
6 a corner region of the pre-hung door assembly;  
7 a fixed side flange affixed to one end of said frontal barrier member and  
8 extending approximately perpendicularly with respect to the barrier surface  
9 provided by said frontal barrier member such that a right angle inner surface  
10 corner contour is formed therebetween; and  
11 an outwardly extensible lip member affixed to the other end of said door  
12 retention member.

1 29. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 28, wherein said lip member secures said other  
2 end of said frontal barrier member to a corner of the door frame.

1 30. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 28, wherein said door frame is a three-sided  
2 door frame comprising a head jamb and a pair of side jambs wherein the head jamb is  
3 coupled at right angle junctions with the side jambs.

1 31. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 28, wherein said frontal barrier member, said  
2 fixed side flange, and said lip member are formed as an integrally molded plastic unit.

1 32. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 28, wherein said lip member has a proximal  
2 end affixed to said other end of said frontal barrier member and a free distal end at which  
3 said lip member is extensible in a flexible, bow-like manner.

1 33. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 32, wherein the proximal end of said lip  
2 member comprises a substantially flat strip member extending approximately  
3 perpendicularly with respect to the barrier surface of said frontal barrier member such  
4 that a right angle brace is formed between the barrier surface and the proximal end of said  
5 lip member.

1 34. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 32, wherein said lip member includes a corner  
2 flange at its free distal end for attaching to a corner of the door frame.

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2 35. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 34, wherein the door frame includes at least  
3 one vertical frame member having a bottom end extending in offset manner below the  
4 bottom edge of the door to form an L-shaped bottom corner region of the pre-hung door  
5 assembly, and wherein said lip member is extensible such that said lip member corner  
6 flange is securable to the bottom corner of the vertical frame member.

1 36. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 34, wherein said lip member corner flange  
2 curves inwardly in a hook-like manner.

1 37. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 32, wherein said frontal barrier member  
2 comprises a raised bumper member extending outwardly from the barrier surface.

1 38. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 37, wherein said bumper member includes a  
2 substantially flat upper surface.

1 39. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 37, wherein the width-to-height ratio of said  
2 bumper member is at least 1.0.

1 40. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 37, wherein said bumper member has a width  
2 between 1.25" and 1.50".

1 41. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 37, wherein said bumper member has a height  
2 between 0.875" and 1.25".

1 42. The pre-hung door assembly of claim 37, wherein said frontal barrier member further  
2 includes a flat transition flange that couples said raised bumper member to the proximal  
3 end of said lip member.

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